C1855-14

JUL 20

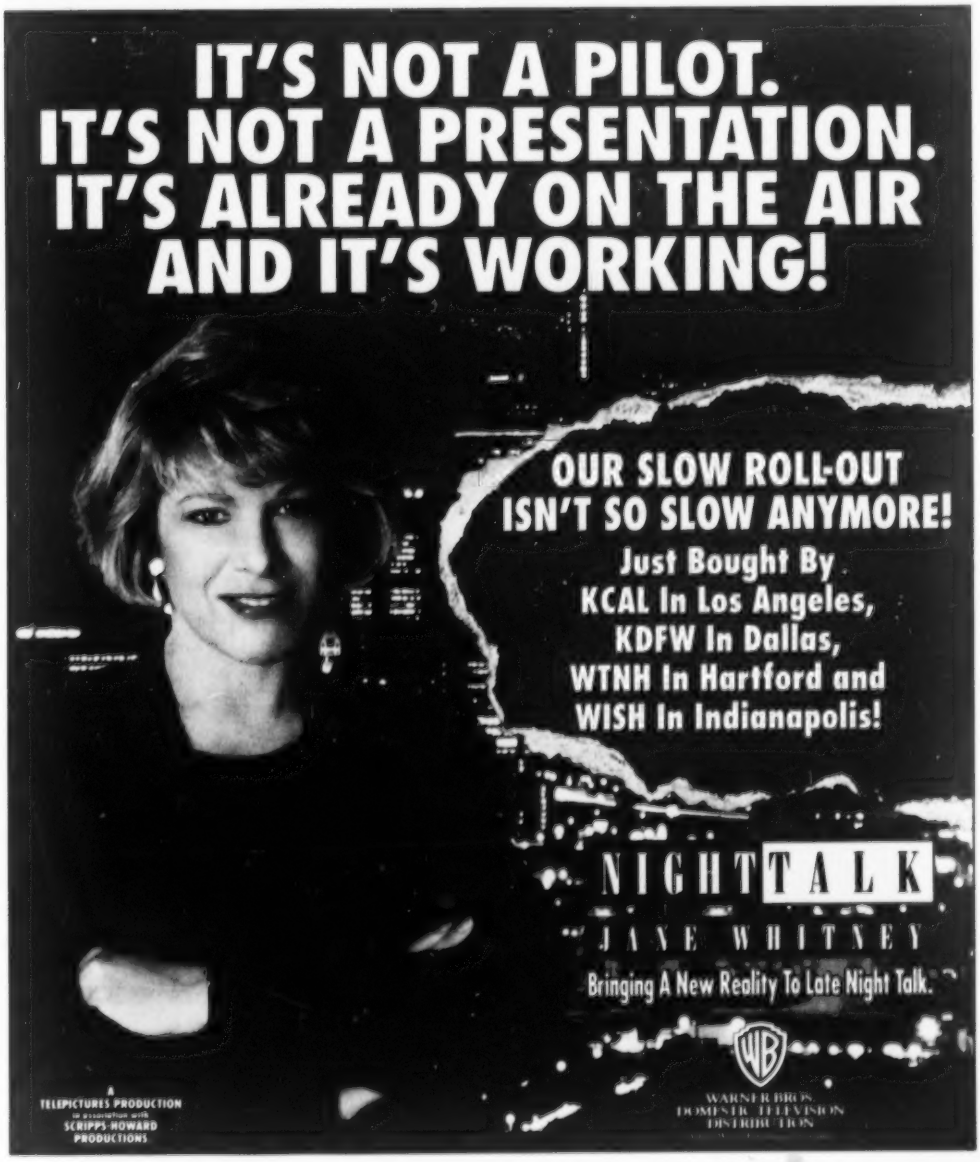
Broadcasting

FIRST IN TELEVISION CABLE RADIO SATELLITE

❑ TV MAKES THE MOST OF UNCONVENTIONAL COVERAGE / 4

❑ HERE'S JOHNNY, AGAIN...NBC ALSO SIGNS CARVEY, CANDY AND WINKLER / 15

❑ REP FIRM TO TRACK NATIONAL SPOT CABLE DOLLARS / 20



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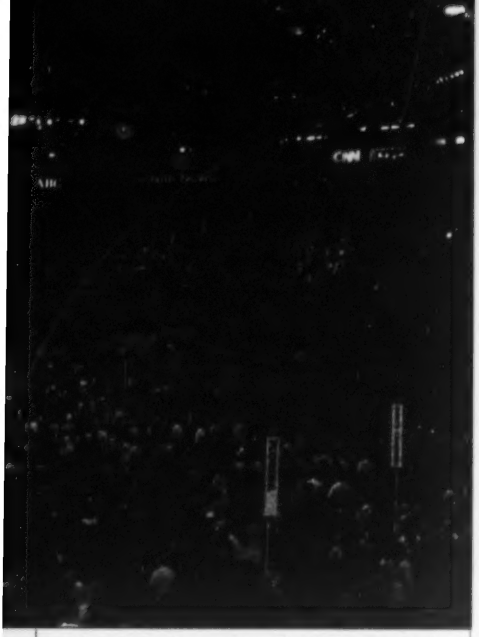


ditionally do news. Cable's Comedy Central reached 100,000 viewers (out of a potential audience of 25 million) with two hours of coverage each night, and MTV offered two-minute convention pieces. On NBC, *Tonight Show* host Jay Leno aired his show live last week so he could satirize each evening's events, and Texas governor and convention co-chair Ann Richards appeared on *Late Night with David Letterman*.

Despite the fact that only 200 local stations—down from 300 in 1988—sent staff to Madison Square Garden, the Democratic National Committee came to rely on local TV to carry its message. "You have to remember, it's a different media world," says Ginny Terzano, press secretary to DNC Chairman Ron Brown. "Our focus was not necessarily the networks. We had an aggressive strategy with local and independent stations to have them interview elected officials, congressmen, party officials, to get our message out through our satellite news service." The DNC doubled the size of its Convention Satellite News Service, which let stations conduct live interviews with politicians either on the convention floor or in studios in the Garden. The service, using two satellite paths, operated 14 hours a day and beamed about 100 interviews a day.

The Republicans have used a similar service since 1984, and the Democrats picked it up in 1988. "I think you're going to see more and more of this in convention coverage in the future," says Dennis Hayden, executive producer of the service. ■

This Week

FCC OK'S VIDEO DIALTONE / 3

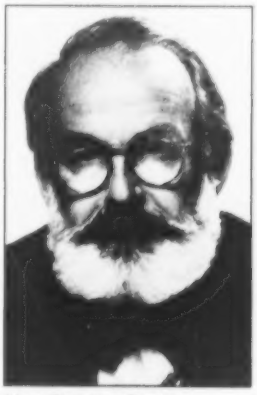
The FCC voted last week to let telephone companies transmit video for programer-customers on a common carrier basis without having to obtain municipal cable franchises.

CARSON'S BACK / 15

Johnny Carson has signed a multi-year deal to develop and star in original programing for NBC, attendees at the Television Critics Association press tour were told last week.

SAUTER JOINS FOX / 19

In a move that may provide a push for the company's efforts to expand its news presence, Fox Inc. Chairman Rupert Murdoch hired former CBS News President Van Gordon Sauter to head Fox News.



Van Gordon Sauter tapped to head Fox News (p. 19).

SPOT REPORT FOR CABLE / 20

In what it hopes will be the first in a series of quarterly reports, Cable Networks Inc. said revenues from spot cable hit $41.1 million for the first half of 1992, a 13% increase over the same period in 1991.

Battlestar Galactica will lead off Sci-Fi's prime time (p. 21).

SCI-FI SLATE / 21

USA Network's Sci-Fi Channel launches in September with a Monday-Friday prime time schedule of off-network programing and original shows on Sunday.

RADIO'S CONVENTION COURSE / 22

While television continued to cut back its national convention coverage, radio held steady compared with 1988, with most networks offering gavel-to-gavel feeds to their affiliates and stations sending a phalanx of correspondents.

CABLE SEEKS WAIVER REPEAL / 24

Cable groups have asked the FCC to rescind its waiver allowing GTE to participate with a local cable franchisee in providing video and information services. Complainants contend the services being offered through the waiver are not unique.

RHI IPO / 27

Long-form program production and distribution company RHI Entertainment hopes to raise $27 million by going public.

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Incorporating The Fifth Estate TELEVISION Broadcasting ■ Cable

Broadcasting (ISSN 0007-2028) (GST #123397457) is published weekly with one additional special issue in January by The Cahners Publishing Co. (subscription includes all issues). Cahners Publishing Co., at 475 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10016, is a division of Reed Publishing USA, 275 Washington St., Newton, MA 02158-1630. Terrence M. McDermott, President/Chief Operating Officer; Frank J. Sibley, Executive Vice President; John J. Beni, Senior Vice President/General Manager; Neil Perlman, Senior Vice President/Group Publisher; Jerry D. Neth, Senior Vice President/Publishing Operations; J.J. Walsh, Senior Vice President/Finance; Thomas J. Dellamaria, Senior Vice President/Production & Manufacturing; Ralph Knupp, Vice President/Human Resources; Neal Vitale, Vice President/Consumer Publishing. Second-class postage paid at New York, NY, and additional mailing offices. Postmaster, please send address changes to *Broadcasting*, PO Box 715, Brewster, NY 10509-0715. *Broadcasting* copyright 1992 by Reed Publishing USA. Robert L. Krakoff, Chairman/Chief Executive Officer. Annual subscription rates: USA, $85; Canada, $129 (includes GST); Foreign Air, $300; Foreign Surface, $149. Single copies are $2.95, special issues, $4.50. Please address all subscription mail to *Broadcasting*, PO Box 715, Brewster, NY 10509-0715. Microfilm of *Broadcasting* is available from University Microfilms, 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48106 (1-800-521-0600).

Broadcasting's Ratings Week ■ Jul 6-12

	ABC	CBS	NBC	FOX
MONDAY	6.6/12	10.3/19	9.7/18	NO PROGRAMING
8:00	45. FBI: Untold Str 8.1/16	26. Evening Shade 9.6/19	20. Fresh Prince 9.9/20	
8:30	36. Amer Detective 8.9/17	29. Major Dad 9.5/18	36. Blossom 8.9/17	
9:00	76. Jim Thorpe Pro Sports Awards 5.7/10	6. Murphy Brown 12.8/24	20. NBC Monday Night Movie—Assault and Matrimony 9.9/18	
9:30		34. Grapevine 9.1/16		
10:00		18. Northern Exposure 10.4/19		
10:30				
TUESDAY	12.6/23	11.5/21	6.6/12	NO PROGRAMING
8:00	9. Full House 12.2/25	15. Rescue: 911 10.9/21	77. Mann & Machine 5.6/11	
8:30	3. Home Improvmt 14.8/28			
9:00	1. Rosoanne 16.1/29	10. CBS Tuesday Movie—Bare Essentials 11.8/21	74. Quantum Leap 5.9/11	
9:30	5. Coach 13.4/24			
10:00	31. Jack's Place 9.4/17		41. Dateline NBC 8.4/15	
10:30				
WEDNESDAY	6.7/12	9.7/18	10.6/19	9.9/19
8:00	51. Wonder Years 7.8/15	72. Howie 6.2/12	7. Unsolved Mysteries 12.4/23	40. Simpsons 8.5/17
8:30	59. Growing Pains 7.0/13	79. Rescue: 911 5.4/10		19. Melrose Place* 10.3/19
9:00	71. Doogie Howser 6.3/11	35. Raven 9.0/16		
9:30	54. Who's the Boss? 7.4/13		22. Seinfeld 9.8/17	
10:00	75. Civil Wars 5.8/11	4. 48 Hours 14.4/27	42. Quantum Leap 8.3/15	
10:30				
THURSDAY	7.9/15	10.4/19	8.7/16	7.0/14
8:00	65. The Young Riders 6.6/13	26. Top Cops 9.6/19	45. A Diffrnt World 8.1/17	59. Simpsons 7.0/14
8:30			29. Cosby 9.5/19	82. Drexell's Class 5.1/10
9:00	84. Jumpin' Joe 4.8/9	15. Street Stories 10.9/20	12. Cheers 11.4/21	49. Beverly Hills 90210 8.0/15
9:30	87. Crow's Nest 4.5/8		31. Wings 9.4/17	
10:00	7. Primetime Live 12.4/22	17. Bodies of Evidence 10.6/19	61. L.A. Law 6.9/12	
10:30				
FRIDAY	9.7/20	7.3/15	7.5/16	5.2/11
8:00	26. Family Matters 9.6/22	88. H'wood Game 4.4/10	45. Matlock 8.1/18	68. America's Most Wanted 6.4/14
8:30	33. Step By Step 9.2/20	91. Say What? 3.9/8		
9:00	45. Dinosaurs 8.1/17	38. CBS Friday Movie—Big Business 8.8/18	58. Reasonable Doubts 7.1/15	83. Sightings 4.9/10
9:30	42. Perfect Strangers 8.3/17			96. Hidden Video 2 3.1/6
10:00	12. 20/20 11.4/23		55. Law and Order 7.3/15	
10:30				
SATURDAY	4.7/10	6.6/14	6.7/14	6.3/14
8:00			67. Golden Girls 6.5/15	65. Cops 6.6/16
8:30	86. In a New Light 4.6/10	80. CBS Saturday Movie—Sometimes They Come Back 6.1/13	77. Home Fires 5.6/13	51. Cops 2 7.8/18
9:00			55. Empty Nest 7.3/15	61. Code 3 6.9/15
9:30			44. Nurses 8.2/17	92. Vinnie & Bobby 3.8/8
10:00	84. All Star Fiesta at Ford's 4.8/10	53. Jake and the Fatman 7.6/16	68. Sisters 6.4/13	
10:30				
SUNDAY	7.7/14	12.4/23	7.5/14	5.8/11
7:00	80. Life Goes On 5.2/9	2. 60 Minutes 15.0/32	95. Against All Odds 3.4/7	94. Bill & Ted 3.6/8
7:30			92. Against All Odds 3.8/8	89. True Colors 4.2/9
8:00	25. Am Fun Hme Vid 9.7/19	14. Murder, She Wrote 11.3/21	63. In the Heat of the Night 6.7/13	57. In Living Color 7.2/14
8:30	22. Am Fun People 9.8/18			68. Rachel Gunn, R.N. 6.4/12
9:00	50. ABC Sunday Night Movie—Get Smart Again 7.9/14	11. CBS Sunday Movie—Runaway Father 11.7/21	22. NBC Sunday Night Movie—Cry in the Wild: The Taking of Peggy Ann 9.8/17	38. Married w/Childn 8.8/16
9:30				63. Down the Shore 6.7/12
10:00				80. Herman's Head 5.2/9
10:30				89. Stand by Your Man 4.2/8
WEEK'S AVGS	8.0/15	9.9/19	8.2/16	6.7/13
SSN. TO DATE	11.5/19	12.8/22	11.7/20	7.6/13

RANKING/SHOW (PROGRAM RATING/SHARE) *PREMIERE SOURCE: A.C. NIELSEN YELLOW TINT IS WINNER OF TIME SLOT

ABC'S 'IRONMAN' TROUT COVERS 29TH CONVENTION

By Peter Viles

Calm, courtly and debonair, 82-year-old Robert Trout looked somewhat out of place amid the bustle and confusion that characterized the Democratic National Convention in New York last week.

But if anyone is comfortable covering an American political convention, it is Trout. Last week, working for ABC Radio Networks, he covered his 29th consecutive convention—a remarkable streak that dates back to 1936, covers Democrats and Republicans, and is probably unmatched in broadcasting history.

On the eve of his first convention in 1936, Trout demonstrates CBS's new "walking transmitter." The watch is a microphone, the binocular case holds an amplifier and modulator, and the cane serves as an antenna and frequency modulator. Batteries are housed in a money belt.

A 60-year veteran of network radio, Trout earned the nickname "The Iron Man of Radio" decades ago in recognition of his remarkable stamina and his cool, unruffled style of covering live events.

Trout's voice has been familiar to Americans since 1932, when he broke in with CBS radio in the days before the fledgling network even had a news department. It was Trout, in fact, who coined the phrase "fireside chats" to describe President Roosevelt's frequent radio speeches.

For ABC last week, Trout anchored live convention coverage from a skybox high above the convention podium in Madison Square Garden. A stylish, dapper man who lives in Madrid, Spain, Trout even trotted out a special convention uniform: the very same Brooks Brothers tweed sportscoat he wore while covering the 1936 Democratic convention.

In an interview with BROADCASTING, he reminisced about past conventions and talked about the way radio and television have changed the way parties stage their conventions.

Without a doubt, he said, the most memorable convention he covered was the 1940 GOP gathering, when Wendell Willkie stunned the party by coming from nowhere to win the nomination after several ballots.

"The conventions really used to be places where problems were worked out," he said. "There was dissension, and you had conflict and problems. Things were really worked out—they were a work place."

Trout said radio coverage changed the conventions first, turning them from obscure daytime debates into nationally broadcast nighttime dramas. Then the prying eye of television slowly pressured party leaders into staging carefully scripted, upbeat pageants of unity, he said.

Trout's assessment of the opening of the 1992 Democratic convention: "It was quite a show—slick and professional. The Democrats have certainly caught up to the Republicans in that regard." ■

STERN BOOSTS STATIONS IN NEW YORK, L.A.

It was good news and bad last week for Howard Stern. While production was halted on his syndicated TV show, Stern's morning radio show continued to draw new listeners in New York and Los Angeles.

In New York, Stern's top-rated morning show (8.3 share) helped WXRK(FM) New York vault from 6th place to 4th in the New York market in overall listenership, according to the spring 1992 Arbitron survey. WXRK's main competitor, WNEW(FM), dropped out of the New York top 10, falling from a 3.7 to a 3.1 share (total week, persons 12-plus), and from 10th place to 13th.

The New York survey showed WRKS(FM) and WLTW(FM) holding the top two spots. WCBS(FM), meanwhile, jumped two spots, from 5th to 3rd, as its share rose from 4.2 to 5.0.

In Los Angeles, Stern's share on KLSX(FM) rose from 3.8 in the winter book to 5.3 in the spring, and KLSX's total week share rose from 3.0 to 3.3, good for 12th in the Los Angeles market.

Adult contemporary KOST(FM) took back the L.A. market lead as its share rose from 4.8 to 5.0. KIIS(FM) was second at 4.5, followed by KABC(AM) and KLVE(FM), both at 4.4. —PV

New York Rankings

Station	*Format*	*Winter*	*Rank*	*Spring*	*Rank*
WRKS(FM)	**Urban**	**5.5**	**1**	**5.6**	**1**
WLTW(FM)	**Soft AC**	**5.4**	**2**	**5.2**	**2**
WCBS(FM)	**Oldies**	**4.2**	**5**	**5.0**	**3**
WXRK(FM)	**Classic rock**	**4.1**	**6**	**4.5**	**4**
WBLS(FM)	**Urban**	**4.9**	**3**	**4.3**	**5**
WHTZ(FM)	**CHR**	**3.6**	**11**	**4.0**	**6**
WMXV(FM)	**Mix/AC**	**4.3**	**4**	**3.8**	**7**
WINS(AM)	**News**	**3.8**	**9**	**3.7**	**8**
WPAT(FM)	**Easy list.**	**3.5**	**12**	**3.7**	**8**
WQHT(FM)	**CHR**	**3.9**	**8**	**3.6**	**10**

Los Angeles Rankings

Station	*Format*	*Winter*	*Rank*	*Spring*	*Rank*
KOST(FM)	**Soft AC**	**4.8**	**3**	**5.0**	**1**
KIIS(AM/FM)	**CHR**	**5.0**	**1**	**4.5**	**2**
KABC(AM)	**Talk**	**3.4**	**9**	**4.4**	**3**
KLVE(FM)	**Spanish**	**3.3**	**10**	**4.4**	**3**
KPWR(FM)	**CHR**	**5.0**	**1**	**4.2**	**5**
KRTH(FM)	**Oldies**	**3.5**	**8**	**4.1**	**6**
KBIG(FM)	**AC**	**4.2**	**5**	**4.0**	**7**
KLOS(FM)	**AOR**	**3.5**	**7**	**4.0**	**7**
KKBT(FM)	**Urban**	**3.8**	**6**	**3.8**	**9**
KXEZ(FM)	**Oldies/AC**	**3.2**	**11**	**3.7**	**10**

Total week, 12-plus. More market-by-market ratings next week.

TIME WARNER GOES TO WORK WITH NEW PARTNERS

Toshiba, C. Itoh deal closes; companies will supply set-top converters, other equipment

By Sharon D. Moshavi

Time Warner is dusting off its favorite buzzword—"synergy." Having spent the last six months introducing one another to their respective businesses, the company and its new minority partners—Japanese firms Toshiba Corp. and C. Itoh—closed their deal two weeks ago and are starting to look seriously at ventures they can do together.

The alliance, which gave Time Warner $1 billion to help pare down its debt, has achieved its short-term financial goal, and now the focus is on identifying the long-term benefits of turning over 12.5% of Time Warner's TV, movie and cable businesses to two Japanese companies active in telecommunications.

The deal involves the creation of two entities: Time Warner Entertainment—comprising Warner Bros., HBO and Time Warner Cable—of which Toshiba and C. Itoh each own 6.25% for a payment of $500 million; and Time Warner Entertainment Japan, 50% owned by Time Warner with the rest split between the two

Changing Hands

This week's tabulation of station and system sales ($250,000 and above)

WNLS(AM)-WTNT(FM) Tallahassee, Fla. □ Sold by Arso Radio Corp. to Park Communications Inc. for $2.65 million, including $250,000 noncompete covenant. **Seller** is headed by Jesus Soto and is licensee of WPRM-FM San Juan, P.R., and WDSR(AM)-WNFB(FM) Lake City, Fla. **Buyer** is headed by Roy H. Park, and owns 11 AM's, 11 FM's and 8 TV's, as well as 140 newspapers. WNLS is 5 kw full-timer with news/talk format on 1270 khz. WTNT has country format on 94.9 mhz with 100 kw and antenna 840 feet above average terrain. *Broker: Media Venture Partners.*

WVVY(FM) Grifton, N.C. □ Sold by L.E. Willis to Edward L. Taylor III for $1.4 million. **Seller,** one of largest minority owners in the country, owns 13 AM's and 13 FM's. **Buyer** heads Local-DBS Inc., Tulsa, Okla.-based satellite broadcast service. WVVY has urban AC format on 99.5 mhz with 16.5 kw and antenna 830 feet above average terrain. *Broker: Bergner & Co.*

WPFM(FM) Panama City, Fla. □ Sold by Donald G. McCoy, receiver, to Milback Inc. for $600,000. **Seller** has no other broadcast interests. **Buyer** is headed by James T. Milligan and is licensee of WDRK(FM) Callaway, Fla. Milligan is also licensee of one AM and one FM. WPFM has CHR format on 107.9 mhz with 100 kw and antenna 781 feet above average terrain.

WHRS(AM)-WLFX(FM) Winchester, Ky. □ Sold by Premier Broadcast Group Inc. to Hancock Communications Inc. for $600,000. **Seller** is headed by Gary L. Jensen, receiver, and has no other broadcast interests. **Buyer** is headed by Bayard H. Walters and owns five AM's and six FM's. WHRS has big band format on 1380 khz with 2.5 kw day and 40 w night. WLFX has CHR format on 100.1 mhz with 1.4 kw and antenna 460 feet above average terrain.

KHUB(AM)-KFMT(FM) Freemont, Neb. □ 85% sold by KHUB Inc. to Robert Close and Joseph A. Nugent for $450,000. **Seller** is headed by Fred Pyle, and has no other broadcast interests. **Buyers** have no other broadcast interests. KHUB has AC format on 1340 khz with 500 w day and 1 kw night. KFMT has MOR format on 105.5 mhz with 3 kw and antenna 450 feet above average terrain. *Broker: The Mahlman Co.*

WLSY-FM Jeffersontown, Ky. (Louisville) □ Sold by Louisville Radio Ltd. to Channel Chek Inc. for $350,500. **Seller** is headed by P. Richard Zitelman; certain principals also have interests in WHIT(AM)-WWQM-FM Madison, Wis. **Buyer** is headed by Rodney A. Burbridge and is licensee of WGZB-FM Corydon, Ind. WLSY-FM has Lite AC format on 101.7 mhz with 1.4 kw and antenna 413 feet above average terrain. *Broker: William R. Rice Co.*

KWNN(AM) Little Rock, Ark. □ Sold by Dynamic Communications Inc. to Joshua Ministries and Community Development Corp. for $250,000. **Seller** has no other broadcast interests. **Buyer** is headed by Silas Johnson and has no other broadcast interests. KWNN has motivational-informational format on 1050 khz with 1 kw day and 19 w night.

KOGT(AM) Orange, Tex. □ Sold by Klement Broadcasting Corp. to G-Cap Communications Inc. for $250,000. **Seller** is headed by Richard Klement. **Buyer** is headed by Gary P. Stelly has no other broadcast interests. KOGT is fulltimer with C&W format on 1600 khz with 1 kw.

For other proposed and approved sales see "For the Record," page 39.

PROPOSED STATION TRADES

By volume and number of sales

This Week:

AM's □ **$1,742,500** □ **6**

FM's □ **$2,989,744** □ **9**

AM-FM's □ **$4,140,000** □ **5**

TV's □ **$0** □ **0**

Total □ **$8,872,244** □ **20**

1992 to Date:

AM's □ **$131,130,515** □ **119**

FM's □ **$142,277,292** □ **128**

AM-FM's □ **$189,539,805** □ **89**

TV's □ **$1,181,171,620** □ **38**

Total □ **$1,644,119,232** □ **374**

For 1991 total see Jan. 27, 1992 BROADCASTING.

(see below). Action June 26.

■ **WQOL(FM) Vero Beach, FL** (BTCH920513GI; 103.7 mhz; 50 kw; ant. 476 ft.)—Granted transfer of control from Tallahassee Broadcasting Co. Inc. to Equity Resources Group of Indian River County Inc. for $50,000. **Seller** is headed by B.F.J. Timm, and is transferring its 50% of company to assignee. It is also licensee of WGLF(FM) Tallahassee and ultimate licensee of WSGL(FM) Naples, both Florida. Timm also owns majority of shares of licensees of WVOJ(AM) Jacksonville, WANM(AM) Tallahassee and WOZN(FM) Key West, all Florida, and WDMG-AM-FM Douglas and WRCC-AM-FM Warner-Robins, both Georgia. Timm and principal Wayne L. DiLuciento each have 50% interest in permittee of WMMY(FM) Solana, FL. **Buyer** is headed by Andrew W. and Robin W. Williams, husband and wife, and has no other broadcast interests. Action June 25.

■ **WBCL(FM) Fort Wayne, IN, and WBCU(FM) Archbold, OH** (WBCL: BALH920421GS; 90.3 mhz; 50 kw; ant. 499 ft.; WBCU: BAPH920421GT; 89.5 mhz)—Granted assignment of CP from Summit Christian College to Taylor University Inc. Summit Christian is merging with Taylor University, which will become licensee of both stations. Taylor University is headed by Theodore F. Brolund, and has no other broadcast interests. Action June 24.

■ **WIRE(FM) Lebanon, IN** (BTCH920420GZ; 100.9 mhz; 3 kw; ant. 300 ft.)—Granted transfer of control of Boone County Broadcasters Inc. for $320,000. **Seller** is David C. Keister, selling his 85% of licensee. Keister also owns 2 AM's and 4 FM's. **Buyer** is John R. Dotas, who will own, with his wife, 50% of licensee. Action June 26.

■ **WLRS(FM) Louisville, KY** (BALH920406HT; 102.3 mhz; 3 kw; ant. 300 ft.)—Granted assignment of license from Radio One of Louisville Inc. to Blue River Communications Ltd. for $10 and assumption of debt in form of note payable from Greyhound Financial Corp. in amount, as of Dec. 13, 1991, of $3.476 million. **Seller** is headed by receiver Thomas M. Duddy, and has no other broadcast interests. **Buyer** is headed by James E. Champlin. BRC Media Management, managing general partner of assignor, is wholly owned subsidiary of Beck-Ross Communications Inc., ultimate licensee of WBLI(FM) Patchogue, NY; WHCN(FM) Hartford, CT, and WSNE(FM) Taunton, MA. Action July 1.

■ **WMSG(AM)-WXIE(FM) Oakland, MD** (AM: BTC920429GG; 1050 khz; 1 kw-D, 75 w-N; FM: BTCH920429GH; 92.3 mhz; 1.4 w; ant. 689 ft.)—Granted transfer of control of Oakland Radio Station Corporation for $71,280. **Sellers** are Kenneth E. Robertson, et al., selling all their interest in licensee. **Buyer** is Brenda J. Butscher, who will own 79.4% of licensee. Principals have no other broadcast interests. Action June 26.

■ **WBTI(FM) Lexington, MI** (BAPLH920406HA; 96.9 mhz; 3 kw; ant. 328 ft.)—Granted assignment of CP from Vector Broadcasting Inc. to Hanson Communications Inc. for $350,000. **Seller** is headed by Timothy Martz, and is also permittee of WXEB(FM) Chateaugay, NY, and WKNW-FM Canaan, VT. Martz has 90% interest in permittees of WBFX(FM) Grand Marais, MN; KYWG(FM) Sarles, ND, and in licensees of WKNW(AM)-WYSS(FM) Sault Ste. Marie, MI, and WFST(AM)-WBPW(FM) Caribou-Presque Isle, ME. He has 80% interest in licensees of WFNL(FM) Sturgeon Bay, WI, WZNL(FM) Norway, MI, and in permittees of WENL(FM) Gladstone and WXNL(FM) Baraga, both Michigan. Martz also has applications pending for construction of FM translators in New York State. **Buyer** is headed by Lee C. Hanson, and is licensee of WPHM(AM) Port Huron, MI. Action June 29.

■ **KDWA(AM) Hastings, MN** (BAL920518EE; 1460 khz; 1 kw-D)—Granted assignment of license from Wheeler Broadcasting of Minnesota Inc. to K & M Broadcasting Inc. for $163,300, plus supplemental payments based on station billings. **Seller** is headed by Ray L. Wheeler, and recently sold WOMA-(FM) Algoma, WI ("For the Record," Feb. 17). It is also licensee of KWNO-AM-FM Winona-Rushford, MN; 50% interest in WTCH(AM)-WOWN(FM) Shawano, WI, and WJNR-FM Iron Mountain, MI. **Buyer** is headed by Roy K. Kline Jr., and has no other broadcast interests. Action June 30.

■ **KOZX(FM) Cabool, MO** (BALH911129HJ; 98.1 mhz; 3 kw; ant. 220 ft.)—Granted assignment of license from KVVC Broadcasting Inc. to Twin Cities Broadcasting Inc. for $115,000. **Seller** is headed by Tom L. Mason, and has no other broadcast interests. **Buyer** is headed by Shelley M. Grosenbacher, and has no other broadcast interests. Action June 26.

■ **KFGE(FM) Lincoln, NE** (BTCH920413GI; 105.3 mhz)—Granted transfer of control of licensee Lincoln Broadcasting Inc. to Salt Valley Broadcasting Inc. for $200,000. **Seller** is Norma R. Peterson, transferring her 50.5% of licensee, and has no other broadcast interests. **Buyer** is headed by Dale Jensen. Richard W. Chapin, 25% owner of buyer, has 50% ownership of licensee of KSYZ-FM Grand Island, NE. Action June 29.

■ **KPQC(FM) Omaha** (BAPCT920122KF; ch. 15)—Dismissed app. of assignment of CP from Pappas Telecasting of the Midlands to Gary Cocola for $325,000; station is not on air. **Seller** is headed by general partner Harry J. Pappas, and is also licensee of KPTM(TV) Omaha and KMPH(TV) Fresno (Visalia), Calif. **Buyer** also has FCC approval to acquire license for LPTV's K34AV Fresno and K66CQ Oneals, both California. Action June 30.

■ **WBNJ(FM) Cape May Court House, NJ** (BALH920430GE; 105.5 mhz; 3 kw; ant. 294 ft.)—Granted assignment of license from Gateway Broadcasting Corp. to The Avalon Group for $850,000 ("In Brief," May 4). **Seller** is headed by Joseph M. Isabel, and is licensee of WCSS(AM)-WKOL-FM Amsterdam, N.Y., as well as cable TV system. **Buyer** is headed by Donald W. Greth, radio talk show host in Reading, PA; he has no other broadcast interests. Action June 30.

■ **WKJA(FM) Belhaven, NC** (BALH920309GT; 92.1 mhz with 3 kw and antenna 282 ft.)—Granted assignment of license from Spirit Broadcasting Inc. to Winfas of Belhaven Inc. for $594,000, assumption of debt. Station was purchased in 1991 from Belhaven Christian Radio, headed by L.E. Willis Sr., for $655,000 ("For the Record," July 15, 1991). **Seller** is headed by Ernestine Willis Cuffee, daughter of L.E. Willis Sr., who is licensee of 5 AM's and 11 FM's. **Buyer** is headed by Roger R. Ingram, and is licensee of WKOO(FM) Jacksonville, NC, and WYYD(FM) Amherst, VA. Action June 25.

■ ***KWVA(FM) Eugene, OR** (BAPED911219GQ; 88.1 mhz; .5 kw; ant. 221.8 ft.)—Granted assignment of CP from University of Oregon Foundation to Associated Students of University of Oregon for no compensation. Trustee in **Seller**, Carolyn S. Chambers, is president of licensee of KEZI(TV) Eugene, OR. **Buyer** is headed by Joseph A. Grube and Jennifer Y. Bills, and has no other broadcast interests. Action June 29.

■ **WVVO(AM)-WDXZ(FM) Dorchester Terrace-Mt. Pleasant, SC** (AM: BAL920330GN; 910 khz; 500 w-U; FM: BALH920330GO; 104.5 mhz; 28 kw; ant. 656 ft.)—Granted assignment of license from Equico Capital Corporation to Dixie Communications Inc. for $900,000. **Seller** is headed by Laurence C. Morse. Principal James D. Corbin owns CP for new station WYBJ(FM) Greenville, MS. Principal John R. Lee is licensee of WJYZ(AM) Albany, GA. **Buyer** is headed by William G. Dudley III, and has

SUMMARY OF BROADCASTING & CABLE

BROADCASTING

Service	ON AIR	CP's[1]	TOTAL*
Commercial AM	4,971	183	5,154
Commercial FM	4,683	950	5,633
Educational FM	1,548	296	1,844
Total Radio	**11,212**	**1,429**	**12,641**
Commercial VHF TV	557	13	570
Commercial UHF TV	581	165	746
Educational VHF TV	123	5	128
Educational UHF TV	236	10	246
Total TV	**1,497**	**193**	**1,690**
VHF LPTV	463	138	601
UHF LPTV	804	829	1,633
Total LPTV	**1,277**	**967**	**2,244**
FM translators	1,901	383	2,284
VHF translators	2,509	72	2,581
UHF translators	2,394	373	2,767

CABLE

Total subscribers	55,786,390
Homes passed	92,040,450
Total systems	11,254
Household penetration†	60.6%
Pay cable penetration/basic	79%

* Includes off-air licenses. † Penetration percentages are of TV household universe of 92.1 million.
[1] Construction permit. [2] Instructional TV fixed service. [3] Studio-transmitter link.
Source: Nielsen, NCTA and Broadcasting's own research.

Although ***The Dennis Miller Show*** had been hovering below a 2 rating nationally since its debut last January and **Tribune Entertainment** had stated it was sticking with the troubled late night strip through next season, the Chicago-based syndicator abruptly announced last Friday that the **show would end production on July 24.** After that, distribution of repeat episodes will continue until the end of the current broadcast season, Sept. 11. Citing an "increasingly challenging ratings outlook" and an "unsatisfactory growth" pattern in late night, particularly following the May 22 departure of Johnny Carson from *The Tonight Show*, sources said that Tribune officials anticipated significantly lower upfront ad revenues for the syndicator, as well as for stations. In its first-quarter financial report, The Tribune Co. reported a profit from the talk show, although it was estimated the media giant invested over $3 million in the show. Since Jay Leno took over *The Tonight Show* on May 25 (it has averaged a 5.2 rating/18 share [up 11% from year-ago ratings] in the Nielsen Television Index [May 25-July 10], *Miller* has been struggling with a 1.4 rating average [May 25-July 3]). On the other hand, Paramount Domestic Television's *The Arsenio Hall Show* has shown 10% household rating growth with a 3.4 (NTI, May 25-July 3) since Leno's debut.

NSS POCKETPIECE

(Network's top ranked syndicated shows for the week ending July 5. Numbers represent aggregate rating average/stations/% coverage)

1. Wheel Of Fortune	11.8/228/99
2. Star Trek	10.7/242/98
3. Jeopardy!	9.9/216/97
4. Nat'l Geographic Assign.	9.4/176/96
5. Oprah Winfrey Show	9.0/221/99
6. Warner Bros Vol. 29	8.0/133/93
7. Married...With Children	7.8/175/96
7. Tri Star Showcase III	7.8/177/97
8. Entertainment Tonight	7.8/190/98
10. Current Affair	8.0/177/96
11. Cosby Show	8.0/197/96
12. Inside Edition	8.7/137/89
13. Donahue	8.4/216/97
14. WKRP In Cincinnati	8.3/238/99
15. Hard Copy	8.1/175/93

WWOR-TV New York is discontinuing first-run production of *The Howard Stern Show,* citing "budgetary concerns." Station officials said they couldn't generate enough advertising revenue to meet production costs of the weekly syndicated series. However, WWOR-TV says it will continue airing the 66 previously produced episodes on Saturdays at 11 p.m.-midnight, and is "exploring" other ventures (specials) with the controversial New York-based radio disc jockey. All American Communications, which has cleared *Stern* in over 50 markets this season (and renewed it in 35 for next season), is negotiating with WWOR and Stern to continue distributing the repeats through the 1992-93 season before its current distribution contract expires this September, according to Richard Mann, All American's VP of creative services. He added that advertiser backlash had been "minimal," with major advertisers such as Paramount Pictures, General Nutrition Centers and Sony Corp. buying into the national advertising inventory, but acknowledged that other major advertisers chose not to advertise depending on "likes or dislikes," not because of so-called advertiser hit lists.

BHC once again extended its tender offer for WWOR-TV New York parent company Pinelands until this Friday, July 24. Still outstanding is

ANCIER, DILLER: BRICKS IN THE 'WALL'

The multi-image high-tech "video wall" behind the podium at the Democratic Convention last week in New York may have been a "one-man fight" for its creator, independent producer Garth Ancier, but his involvement in the convention was the brainchild of former Fox Inc. Chairman Barry Diller. Prior to his April resignation as the chief of Fox's broadcast and film operations, Diller, also a former member of the Democrat's convention task force, called Ancier, who has an exclusive production deal with Twentieth (Fox) Television, to join the convention planning committee last October.

Although Diller chose to leave the committee after his departure from Fox, Ancier pushed on for the first-time use of a multi-screen video wall (which he said several key Democratic operatives thought might be too distracting), and a high-definition television camera at the convention. The video wall was made up of 56 rear-projection screens, which Ancier said gave the video images a seamless appearance, as opposed to using individual picture tubes. Combined with playback machines, graphic effects and computer sequencing equipment, Ancier said the multi-image wall cost the Democratic National Committee roughly $500,000 for the four-day meeting.

Also, as a prelude to what may become the widespread application of HDTV technology, Ancier said that a "center-stage" HDTV camera manufactured by AT&T and Zenith was used to record speeches and feed pictures back to HDTV monitors and recording equipment inside Madison Square Garden. Ancier said he isn't sure if he will volunteer for the 1996 Democratic Convention, but he is hopeful that by then HDTV signals will be provided for the broadcast and cable networks. -MF